



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

July 25, 2014

## **FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change**

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota  
Attention: F-6001  
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado  
Attention: J-4120  
Facilities Manager, Hardin, Montana  
Attention: MT-300: Tom Tauscher  
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming  
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6040  
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming  
Attention: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana /s/ Tim H. Felchle

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 14-71**

## **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:**

Elevation: 3639.95; Storage: 1,019,943 acre-feet; River Release: 2,500 cfs; Inflow: 2,750 cfs;

## **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Recent streamflow measurements indicate actual river flows are higher than anticipated and canal flows are lower than anticipated. To adjust for the variation in flows new shifts will be applied to the gage heights and releases will be maintained at current measured rates. In response, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** To provide the proper mixing of water releases to the Bighorn River in attempt to minimize PSAT levels, it is desirable to maintain the Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir between a maximum elevation of 3192.0 feet and a minimum elevation of 3183.6 feet and provide a mixing flow of approximately 75% through the spillway gates and 25% through the sluice gates, plus or minus 10%.

## **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 0900 hour on Friday, July 25, 2014:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 3,230 cfs ( $\approx$  2,460 MW-Hours/day using 31.5 cfs/mw).*

***Due to major unit re-wind project, restrict and limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.***

## **AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:**

**At 0900 hour on Friday, July 25, 2014:**

*Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 420 cfs (maintain gage height = 74.56 applying -1.25 shift).*

*Maintain river release at 2,880 cfs (maintain gage height = 60.65 & apply new shift of -0.34).*

*Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 3,300 cfs.*